#### **REMARKS**

# **Summary of the Amendment**

Upon entry of the present Amendment, Claim 5 will have been amended. Accordingly, Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7 remain pending in the present application. By the present Amendment and Remarks, Applicant submits that the rejections and objections have been overcome, and respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding Office Action and allowance of the present application.

# Traversal of Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 101

The Examiner rejected Claim 5 under 35 USC § 101 as being directed to nonstatutory subject matter. Applicant has amended Claim 5 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion so that the claim recites a practical application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the aforementioned rejection of Claim 5.

### **Allowable Subject Matter**

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication of allowable subject matter for Claims 1, 3, and 7.

#### Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that none of the references of record anticipate or render obvious the Applicant's invention as recited in Claims 1, 3, 5, and 7. The applied reference of record has been discussed and distinguished, while the significant claimed features of the present invention have been pointed out.

Further, any amendments to the claims which have been made in this response and which have not been specifically noted to overcome a rejection based upon prior art, should be considered to have been made for a purpose unrelated to patentability, and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 502456.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: March 10, 2008\_\_\_\_\_\_/Jason Truong/\_

Jason Van Truong Attorney for Applicants Registration No. 53,704

CANON U.S.A., INC. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DIVISION 15975 Alton Parkway Irvine, CA 92618-3731

Tel: (949) 932-3145 Fax: (949) 932-3560